



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

land, Nova Scotia, and extended as far south as Cape Cod, as its bones are found in Indian shell-heaps at Ipswich, Mass., as well as the coast of Maine, and it was noticed by Josslyn, who called it the "wobble" (AMER. NAT., Vol. I, p. 578).

The chapters on the fisheries, on Labrador, those on the agricultural and mineral resources, etc., are all to the purpose. The best game animal is the caribou, which still in vast herds traverses the island in periodical migrations from north to south; the moose is still common, and there is good salmon fishing. The accompanying plate is a fair sample of the illustrations.

When the railroad to Notre Dame bay shall have been completed, a new era in the prosperity of Newfoundland will be opened, and when the railroad to Cape Ray, connecting the short sea route, is built, it will doubtless be very popular, and confer great local benefits by bringing the island into daily communication with Europe and America.

WRIGHT'S ANIMAL LIFE.¹—In preparing this work the author has kept in view the wants of a large class of persons who like to see good pictures of animals and to read anecdotes about them. The popular idea of an "animal" is a beast or quadruped, or a bird, or reptile, or fish. There are those still existing to whom an insect is an insect, but perhaps not an "animal;" coral polyps and the multitudes of species of worms and other invertebrates are as unknown to them as the inhabitants of the planet Mars. Such persons were "brought up" on Goldsmith's Animal Kingdom, and when they buy for themselves or their children an Animal Kingdom, they want a modern Goldsmith. In other words they desire and expect to buy a bibliothecal Noah's ark with all its animals, which is well known were confined to such terrestrial forms as the celebrated voyager and his limited family could conveniently gather when their time was not otherwise engaged in preparing for their momentous voyage. The innumerable creatures of the seas through which the Noachian craft leisurely ploughed, were regarded with as little interest by the early voyagers (who soon became sick of the sea and all that belonged to it) as the general reader of to-day looks upon Porifera, Cœlenterates, Echinoderms, Vermes, Brachiopods, Polyzoa or Tunicates. They are to him little more than names of illy-understood groups which he supposes to be of but little importance, whereas if it had not been for the worms we should have had no vertebrates at all, much less readers of an "Animal Kingdom."

Professor Wright has shrewdly adapted his book to this class of readers. He begins with mammals, then takes up the birds, and devotes two-thirds of the volume to these two classes. Considerable space is given to the reptiles, amphibians and fishes;

¹*Animal Life. Being the Natural History of Animals.* By E. PERCIVAL WRIGHT. With Illustrations. Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co., London, Paris and New York. 8vo, pp. 618.

sixty pages out of 618 are given to insects, and less than a hundred are reserved for all the other classes of the animal kingdom. The result is a well-written, profusely-illustrated and well-bound story book, which would make an admirable present to a lad interested in natural history. The value of such books is considerable, and the author has succeeded admirably in his task.

With much to commend in the treatment of his subject, we could, however, have wished for a more modern rendering of zoölogical science, especially those facts and laws relating to the struggle for existence, the relations of animals to each other and to their surroundings, as well as protective mimicry and the like topics. It is evident that the author has not been inoculated with the ideas and discoveries of modern biology; hence there is yet room for a skilfully written popular sketch of creation.

The author deprecates any criticism from specialists, so that fault-finding with his classification would be ungracious, though we must say that his arrangement of the insects, the Crustacea and Mollusca is unnecessarily old-fashioned. The average reader would find the work just as interesting if it had been in this respect made more in accordance with modern views.

The book is, however, a very entertaining one, with one or more well selected illustrations on nearly every page, and the stories are well told, so that the publishers may feel well satisfied with the way in which the author has accomplished what is, at best, a difficult task.

CHRIST'S FLORA OF SWITZERLAND AND ITS ORIGIN.¹—This important work, which we have received through the kindness of the author, is one that we think destined to attract much attention. It is addressed not only to professional botanists but to cultivated people everywhere. Many Americans visit the little republic every year, led by its unequalled natural attractions. To such this book will prove invaluable. It is not a flora in the commonly accepted sense, that is, a list and description of all the plants of the region. On the contrary, it is an extended and pains-taking treatise on the phyto-geography of the country; the origin, history and development of the vegetable growth.

The author has given many years of assiduous labor to the work, and writes not only with polished grace but with evident devotion. In fact, we have found ourselves quite carried away by some of his graphic descriptions.

The author treats minutely of the zones of distribution and the causes which act upon them, and one who reads it carefully can hardly fail to acquire increased and useful information on a great variety of botanical subjects. Accompanying the work, which is one of 571 pages octavo, are five beautiful maps in color, showing vegetable distribution, and four full-page illustrations of char-

¹ *Flore de la Suisse et ses origines.* Par le Dr. H. CHRIST, Bale.